

Message Text

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DEPT PASS DR. HEMILY/OES

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SUBJECT: NATO SCIENCE COMMITTEE AND VISIT OF DR.
NIERENBERG AND DR. HEMILY--PARIS, FEB 3 AND 4, 1976

REF: A) PARIS 02785, B) STATE 015855

1. EN ROUTE TO BRUSSELS FOR PARTICIPATION IN NATO SCIENCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS, DR. HEMILY AND DR. NIERENBERG MADE COURTESY CALLS ON THE HEADS OF THE FRENCH DGRST (THE CENTRAL COORDINATING AGENCY FOR CIVILIAN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT), THE CNRS (THE NATIONAL RESEARCH CENTERS), AND CNEXO (OCEANS RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND EXPLOITATION). TO EACH DIRECTOR VISITED, DR. NIERENBERG CONVEYED THE MESSAGE THAT, DUE TO ITS ABILITY TO ADDRESS A WIDE RANGE OF SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINES, TO REACT QUICKLY TO ANY NEW S & T DEVELOPMENTS, TO CONVENE SMALL WORKING GROUPS OF RENOWNED EXPERTS, AND TO OPERATE INTENSIVE-STUDY "SUMMER SCHOOLS," THE NATO SCIENCE COMMITTEE PROGRAM HAS MADE, AND WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE, UNIQUE AND SIGNIFICANT
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CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE S & T INTERESTS OF PARTICIPATING

COUNTRIES.

2. ALL THREE DIRECTORS VISITED WERE UNANIMOUS IN THE HIGH REGARD THEY HELD FOR THE NATO SCIENCE COMMITTEE AND OF ITS RELEVANCE TO THEIR MISSIONS. PROFESSOR CURIEN, THE HEAD OF THE DGRST, WAS THE MOST ENTHUSIASTIC AND WAS PREPARED WITH SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE NATO SCIENCE TOPICS: A) IMPROVEMENT OF WORKING CONDITIONS, B) IMPROVEMENT OF THE LINKAGE BETWEEN MEDICAL RESEARCH AND ITS APPLICATION IN PRACTICE, C) ELIMINATION OF MALNUTRITION AND "MISNUTRITION" IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, D) EXTRACTION OF BASIC MATERIALS FOR THE MAKING OF PHARMACEUTICALS FROM NATURAL PRODUCTS OF THE SEA (HE NOTED THAT FRANCE HAS A LONG TRADITION OF USING NATURAL VEGETABLE MATERIAL IN MEDICAMENTS), AND E) THE DEVELOPMENT AND EXPLOITATION OF FORESTRY IN EUROPE. PROF. CURIEN EXPRESSED STRONG INTEREST IN IMPROVING FRENCH PARTICIPATION AND IN ENCOURAGING FRENCH INITIATIVES IN THE NATO SCIENCE COMMITTEE'S ACTIVITIES. HE FELT THE FORUM PROVIDED BY NATO WAS BEST SUITED TO SPECIFIC SCIENTIFIC TOPICS AND NOT TO BIG-PICTURE STUDIES SUCH AS HOW TO MANAGE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

3. PROF. GREGORY, DIRECTOR OF CNRS, GAVE UNRESERVED ENDORSEMENT, NOTING THAT THE NATO SCIENCE COMMITTEE PROGRAM "IS ONE OF OUR BETTER INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES, AND WE ARE VERY PLEASED WITH IT."

4. THE DISCUSSIONS WITH M. LA PRAIRIE, DIRECTOR OF CNEXO, FOCUSED PRIMARILY ON INTERNATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC ACTIVITIES AND THE GOOD RELATIONS WITH DR. NIERENBERG'S SCRIPPS INSTITUTION FOR OCEANOGRAPHY.
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